



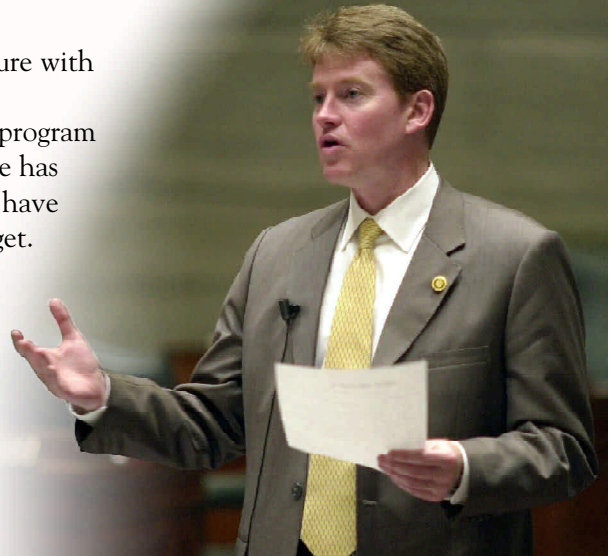
Dear Friends,

The 2005 legislative session has presented the Missouri Legislature with many great challenges and opportunities.

At the halfway point, the Senate has moved quickly to provide program reforms that are important to the people of Missouri. The legislature has already passed major legislation to help doctors and businesses. We have also worked aggressively to limit the increasing size of the state budget.

Whether representing clients at my law firm or representing the people of the 31st district, working to improve the laws of this state has become my professional passion. I thank you for the opportunity to serve and ask for your continued involvement in the legislative process.

Respectfully,



TORT REFORM PASSES AFTER 3-YEAR BATTLE

SENATE WORKS TO CONTROL HEALTHCARE COSTS

Medical malpractice premiums have skyrocketed in recent years. Rising health care premiums have made it impossible for many doctors to provide medical care in Missouri. Many have been forced to leave the state and begin practicing in neighboring states.

Additionally, Missouri businesses have been negatively impacted by our current tort system. Businesses are forced to spend capital to pay high insurance premiums instead of creating new jobs.

In response to these concerns, the Missouri Senate recently approved legislation to limit personal injury lawsuits. The tort reform bill (HB 393) places caps on jury awards, restricts liability when multiple defendants are held responsible for awards and eliminates venue shopping.

Having received the governor's signature, this bill will help Missouri attract new business and aid in our state's future economic development.

Contact Senator Koster

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IMPROVED EDUCATION FUNDING

LEGISLATION WILL PREVENT JUDICIAL INTERVENTION

The first priority of the state of Missouri is to educate our children well. Over the past several years the formula adopted in 1993 to distribute education money has become unbalanced, inequitable, and no longer meets the demands for "full funding." A lawsuit, filed by many public school districts, including those in this area, challenges that formula by saying it is inequitable and inadequate.

The challenge of this legislature is to craft a new formula that will provide students an equal base amount of state aid to ensure a quality education, regardless of where the child lives. The current proposal calls for a base amount of \$6,100 per student in each district. Negotiations are underway which, when approved, should call for an additional \$600 to \$700 million in new education dollars to be phased in over a three or four-year period.

MISSOURI MILITARY PREPAREDNESS COMMISSION

PROTECTING THE LONG-TERM INTEGRITY OF WHITEMAN AFB



Sen. Koster presiding over the Missouri Senate.

Legislation I sponsored protecting Missouri's Military bases recently received the approval of the full Senate and will soon be heard in the House.

Missouri is home to two important military bases — Whiteman Air Force Base in our district, and Fort Leonard Wood near Waynesville. These bases are not only vital parts of our nation's military preparedness, but also important parts of our local communities and economies.

To ensure the continued growth of these facilities, SB 252 establishes the Missouri Military Preparedness Commission. The Commission is charged with advising Governor Blunt and the state legislature in the development of policies and plans to support the long-term viability and prosperity of the

military, both active and civilian, in this state.

This commission will be the vital link connecting the military to our district and to the state of Missouri as a whole. I am hopeful SB 252 will soon be passed by the House and signed by the governor.

Please Visit Our Website:

The Missouri Senate website is a great way to stay informed. You can track current legislation, find current state statutes, or even listen to live floor debates by visiting:

www.senate.mo.gov

While there, please sign up to receive regular e-mail updates from me. These e-mails are a great way for me to stay in touch and provide you with the most up-to-date legislative information.



Senator Chris Koster - Mid-Session Report

I would like your opinion on issues facing Missouri. It is essential that the citizens of Missouri have effective representation in state government. Therefore, I offer this short questionnaire on events relating to the current legislative session. Thank you in advance for your input.

Your Name _____ Address: _____
City _____ Email Address: _____

IMPORTANT ISSUES

- 1) As the legislature begins the second half of session, what do you believe is the most important issue facing state government?

Comments: _____

TAX INCREASES

- 2) Would you support tax increases to maintain Missouri's current level of Medicaid spending?

_____ Yes _____ No

Comments: _____

TOLL ROADS AND BRIDGES

- 3) Do you support the use of toll roads as a funding source for the construction of new roads and bridges?

_____ Yes _____ No

Comments: _____

STEM CELL RESEARCH

- 4) Do you support or oppose giving the Stower's Institute and Washington University the right to conduct stem cell research in our state?

_____ Support _____ Oppose

Comments: _____

EFFICIENT GOVERNMENT

- 5) Do you support combining certain state agencies and programs in an attempt to make government more efficient?

_____ Yes _____ No

Comments: _____

State Senator Chris Koster
Room 225, State Capitol
Jefferson City, MO 65101

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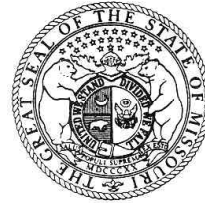
Please be sure to fold the outgoing survey in thirds, so that only the outgoing address is visible.



Sen. Timothy Green, D-St. Louis, left, discusses legislation with Sen. Koster at his desk in the Senate Chamber.

SENATOR KOSTER'S COMMITTEES

- Economic Development, Tourism and Local Government
- Financial, Governmental Organizations, and Elections
- Judiciary and Civil and Criminal Jurisprudence
- Pensions, Veterans' Affairs and General Laws
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